(c) The following steps have been taken by Government to minimise flaring;—

(i) Installation of additional compression facilities.

(ii) Encouraging consumers to take gas on a fall-back basis, when regular customers fail to lift the committed quantities. Towards this end, a 15 per cent discount for fall back users has been given in the pricing formula announced by Government.

(iii) Additional commitment of gas in the North-Eastern Region where the primary cause for flaring is low offitake by regular consumers.

Oil wells in Cauvery Basin

13. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cauvery basin is emerging as a promising oil field;

(b) if so, how many oil wells have been drilled in the Cauvery basin;

(c) what is the total quantity of oil which is being taken every day from these wells; and

(d) what is the total estimated oil potential in the Cauvery basin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) 31 wells onland and 20 wells offshore.

(c) Presently, on an average, a total of 36 tonnes per day of oil is being produced from 2 wells, namely, Narimanam-I and Kovikalbal-4, which are on extended production testing through Early Producion System.

(d) The exact hydrocarbon potential of this basin will be known only after further exploration.

Different prices of bulk drugs

14. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of bulk drugs are being produced by different producers at different costs although the drug is the same,

(b) if so, what are the names of those drugs, their manufacturers, and the cost of production of each such drug;

(c) what is the price of each bulk drug, the prices of whose formulations have been fixed by Government; and

(d) what are the names of finished medicines for which leader prices have been notified alongwith the composition and the price, strengthwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) Prices of about 360 bulk drugs and several thousand formulations based thereon are controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. The required details are voluminous and not readily available. The time and efforts required for collection of the required information will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Common selling prices of drugs

15. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed different prices of the same drug being produced by different manufacturers;